

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 IO-14 NIC-01 ACDA-19 EB-11

FAA-00 SAJ-01 DRC-01 EURE-00 /135 W

----- 018835

O R 041611Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9524

INFO USMISSION BERLIN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 00166

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRN, FR, UK, UR, US, GW, GE, WB

SUBJECT: FRENCH MILITARY FLIGHT TO EAST BERLIN

REF: (A) BONN 123; (B) STATE 1443

SUMMARY: AT TRIPARTITE MEETING JANUARY 4, FRENCH REP REITERATED HIS POSITION ON FAURE FLIGHT TO EAST BERLIN (REF A). US REP ASKED WHAT CONTINGENCY PLANNING FRENCH HAD DONE TO TAKE CARE OF POSSIBLE DIFFICULTIES. FRENCH REP OUTLINED FRENCH THINKING REGARDING STEPS TO BE TAKEN SHOULD SOVIETS OR EAST GERMANS CREATE PROBLEMS OR TRY TO CHANGE ESTABLISHED FLIGHT PROCEDURES IN AIR CORRIDORS OR BCZ. BOTH US AND UK REPS SAID THESE APPEARED TO MEET ALLIED REQUIREMENTS. END SUMMARY.

1. AT TRIPARTITE MEETING JANUARY 4, FRENCH REP PRESENTED FORMALLY HIS AUTHORITIES' PROPOSAL TO HAVE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT FAURE FLY TO EAST BERLIN  
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FROM PARIS IN FRENCH MILITARY AIRCRAFT, UTILIZING SOUTH

CORRIDOR (REF A) AND FLIGHT PROCEDURES ANALAGOUS TO POLISH LOT FLIGHTS.

2. US REP DREW ON REF B IN STRESSING NEED FOR CONTINGENCY PLANNING TO ENSURE THAT THE FRENCH AIRCRAFT WOULD LAND IN WEST BERLIN IF THE SOVIETS OR EAST GERMANS DEVIATED FROM LOT PROCEDURES OR IF ANY EFFORT WAS MADE TO INTRODUCE GDR INTO THE PICTURE OTHER THAN IN THE FINAL LANDING AT SCHOENEFELD. FRENCH REP SAID THAT THE FRENCH PLANNING WAS SIMPLE: IF THE SOVIETS OR EAST GERMANS ENDEAVORED TO CREATE ANY DIFFICULTIES WHATSOEVER OR TO DEPART FROM THE PROCEDURES ESTABLISHED FOR HANDLING LOT FLIGHTS, THEN THE FRENCH AIRCRAFT WOULD LAND AT TEGEL.

3. US REP ASKED WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF SOVIETS ATTEMPTED, AFTER AIRCRAFT HAD ENTERED AIR CORRIDOR, TO GIVE CONTROL OF FLIGHT TO GDR AUTHORITIES. FRENCH REP SAID THIS WAS TECHNICALLY NOT FEASIBLE, SO FAR AS HE UNDERSTOOD THE SITUATION: FRENCH AIRCRAFT WOULD REMAIN UNDER BARTCC CONTROL UNTIL IT REACHED THE POINT IN THE BERLIN CONTROL ZONE WHERE LOT NORMALLY MOVED INTO GDR AIR CONTROLLERS' HANDS, AT WHICH POINT THE FRENCH PILOT WOULD SWITCH HIS COMMUNICATIONS TO GDR CONTROLLERS' FREQUENCY FOR INSTRUCTIONS.

4. FRENCH REP INITIALLY INDICATED READINESS TO PERMIT REFERENCE TO SCHOENEFELD LANDING IN ANY STAMP SOVIETS MIGHT PLACE ON FLIGHT CARD IN BASC. FOLLOWING OBJECTIONS FROM US AND UK REPS AGAINST CHANGING ANY OF BASC'S ESTABLISHED METHOD OF OPERATION, FRENCH REP AGREED TO DROP THIS IDEA.

5. UK REP INDICATED HIS AUTHORITIES WERE NOT KEEN ON THE PROPOSED FLIGHT BUT DID NOT FEEL STRONGLY ENOUGH TO

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 00166

OBJECT TO IT. HIS AUTHORITIES WOULD ALSO HAVE PREFERRED THAT THE FLIGHT GO VIA CHEB (CZECHOSLOVAKIA) AND NOT AIR CORRIDOR, BUT AGAIN WOULD NOT PRESS THE POINT. THUS, UK WAS PREPARED TO GO ALONG WITH FRENCH PROPOSAL.

6. FRENCH REP SAID HIS AUTHORITIES IN EAST BERLIN WOULD INDICATE TO THEIR APPROPRIATE GDR COUNTERPARTS WHEN AND HOW THE FAURE FLIGHT WAS ARRIVING AT SCHOENEFELD. HE THOUGHT THIS MIGHT TAKE PLACE BEFORE THE INFORMATION WAS PASSED TO SOVIETS IN THE BASC. US AND UK REPS EXPRESSED DOUBTS AS TO WISDOM OF THIS ORDER OF PRESENTATION, BUT FRENCH REP SAID HE THOUGHT IT HAD TO BE DONE THAT WAY OUT OF COURTESY TO EAST GERMAN HOSTS. US AND UK REPS STRESSED THAT PASSING OF INFORMATION TO GDR SHOULD BE JUST THAT, I.E., INFORMATIONAL IN NATURE, AND NOT A REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO LAND: IN PASSING ALONG THE INFO, THE FRENCH COULD ALSO INDICATE CONFIDENTIAL

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TO EAST GERMANS THAT THEY WOULD BE DEALING WITH THIS MATTER WITH THE SOVIETS AT THE APPROPRIATE TECHNICAL LEVEL. FRENCH REP AGREED TO PROPOSE THIS LINE TO HIS AUTHORITIES.

7. FRENCH REP CONCLUDED BY COMMENTING THAT HE WOULD BE IN TOUCH IMMEDIATELY WITH HIS MISSION IN BERLIN TO ENSURE THAT THERE WOULD BE NO SLIP-UPS OR DEVIATION FROM ESTABLISHED FLIGHT PROCEDURES.

8. COMMENT. ALTHOUGH WE CANNOT GUARANTEE THAT THIS

FLIGHT WILL GO OFF PRECISELY AS ENVISAGED, THE FRENCH DO APPEAR TO BE CONSCIOUS OF THE RISKS INVOLVED IN DEPARTING FROM THE LOT PROCEDURES OR IN GRANTING THE GDR ANY ROLE IT HAS NOT HERETOFORE HAD IN THE FIELD OF CORRIDOR OR BCZ FLIGHTS BY ALLIED AIRCRAFT. ON THIS BASIS, AND IN THE BELIEF THAT THE RISK OF THE SOVIETS AND/OR EAST GERMANS CREATING POLITICAL PROBLEMS WITH THE VISIT TO EAST BERLIN OF A RANKING FRENCH FIGURE IS PROBABLY FAIRLY SMALL, WE CONSIDER THAT THE FRENCH PROPOSAL SHOULD NOT BE OPPOSED.  
HILLENBRAND

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BERLIN AIR ACCESS, MILITARY FLIGHT CLEARANCES, OVERFLIGHT AGREEMENTS, BERLIN ACCESS DISPUTES, BERLIN ACCESS PROCEDURES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 JAN 1974  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**TAGS:** ETRN, FR, UK, UR, US, GE, GC, WB  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005